The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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The most difficult thing in life is to know yourself.
—Thales.

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CHURCHMEN BLAME RAIL MANAGERS FOR STRIKE ON WESTERN MARYLAND

Washington, Feb. 19.—Following a six-month inquiry, organized churchmen placed the blame for the Western Maryland railway strike on the managers.

The report was made by representatives of the Research Department of the Federal Council of Churches, the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Council and the Social Justice Commission of the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

This is the first time the three religious groups have co-operated in such a venture.

The Western Maryland, it was stated, is the only Class 1 road which refused the standard wage increase to enginemen and firemen. The strike vote was taken after two years of negotiation, which ended in a deadlock.

The United States Government, through its alien property custodian, holds for the German bank some 70,000 shares of stock, most of it common. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., holds three-fourths of the first preferred stock. The two holdings are "over 25 per cent of the stock and 43 per cent of the total amount that was voted at the 1925 stockholders' meeting."

"The conflict is not between a wage settlement and bankruptcy," the report stated, "but between a wage settlement and dividends on stock." The road was well able to pay the increase demanded, according to the report.

"The strike was precipitated," the churchmen say, "by an order posted without warning by the company requiring that all men who wished to remain in the service of the company must sign an individual agreement, which was, in effect, a non-union contract. Those who refused to sign were to be dismissed from the service. Some of the men were discharged the day this order was posted.

"The order was, in fact, a lockout order. A strike is the act of employes. A lockout is the act of an employer. While the distinction is not always clear, there seems to be no question about it in this case," the report states. "The Western Maryland was locking out—refusing to permit to work—those of its employes in engine service who would not agree as individuals to work under new conditions. As the Railroad Labor Board said later, 'the company struck first, so to speak.' If the present situation on the Western Maryland is called a strike, rather than a lockout, it was only because the men struck before the lockout order was made fully effective."

BUILD LESS WARSHIPS, IS WHITE HOUSE NOTE

Washington, Feb. 19.—President Coolidge's invitation to European nations to join the United States in a discussion of the limitation of battle cruisers, destroyers and submarines, has been given varying responses abroad.

All diplomats unofficially indicate their willingness to "confer," but there is a wide divergence of opinion among them. This is shown by the French belief that land, sea and air armament are interdependent. The United States and Great Britain are not inclined to accept the theory that before a naval reduction is possible, the question of armies and air craft must also be considered.

A conference in Geneva, consisting of experts from various nations, have been striving for months to reconcile these differences that a program may be submitted to a disarmament conference to be called later. This preliminary conference has made little headway. President Coolidge now suggests that the nations instruct their representatives to this preparatory conference to discuss the new naval treaty at their next session.

At the disarmament conference called by President Harding, the United States, Great Britain and Japan agreed that the basis for battleships of the three countries would be 5—5—3. Cruisers, destroyers and submarines were not included and the nations began building the lighter craft. The President would stop this race.

MERCHANTS ARE PAWNS FOR COSSACK FRIENDS

St. Paul, Minn., Feb. 19.—Country merchants are used as stalking horses to jam a Cossack bill through the State Legislature. These small business men demand protection from robbers.

Cossack opponents make the point that robbing stores in cities is not unknown, despite trained detectives.

"In the face of this fact," says the Minnesota Union Advocate, "what could a few scattered military police do to diminish crime against property?

"At the very lowest estimate it will cost $250,000 to form the nucleus of a State constabulary. This would be only a sprinkling. The presence of the Cossacks would not be felt in ordinary cases. They would only be used for special purposes, such as putting across some lawless enterprise when the people's rights are to be suppressed."

SALARY SURVEY URGED

Washington, Feb. 19.—Federal employes are urging the passage of a congressional bill that would cause a survey to be made of unequal salaries.

In a letter to President Coolidge, officials of the National Federation of Federal Employes point out that provision for such a survey was made in 1923, but nothing has been done by the authorized board.

"The result is," the letter reads, "that government establishments pay different salaries for the same kind of work performed under like conditions in the same community and often in the same Federal building."

OPPOSE "YELLOW DOG"

Columbus, Ohio, Feb. 19.—Trade unionists from every section of the State appeared before an Ohio legislative committee in behalf of a proposed law that would outlaw the "yellow dog."

COLORADO COSSACKS HAVE NO DEFENDERS

Denver, Feb. 19.—The Colorado State Cossacks are so unpopular that when the repeal of this law was voted by the House of Representatives not one member objected to the proposal or raised his voice in favor of the Cossacks.

Popular sentiment against this autocratic machine is unanimous.

The people's opposition was also expressed by Governor Sweet last month in his inaugural address, when he said:

"The State ranger act should be repealed. It is useless, unnecessary and a source of irritation."

CHINKS ARE EMPLOYED ON AMERICAN VESSELS

San Francisco, Feb. 19.—"The Dollar steamship President Wilson, recently sold at bargain rates by the United States Shipping Board, has just sailed from San Francisco on a round-the-world trip with a full Chinese crew," says the Seamen's Journal.

"The President Wilson has been carrying an American crew, but on her last visit to China she picked up a complete crew of Chinamen, duly signed on before American consular officers, and transported this yellow crew (as steerage passengers) to San Francisco. At the latter port the American crew was forced to walk ashore and the $6 per month Chinese seamen are now manning this American liner, which was built and paid for by the American people in the fond hope that our country was to have an American-manned merchant marine.

"The American motorship Carisso, scheduled on a trip from the Pacific Coast to Australia, is another vessel that has recently driven ashore her American crew and substituted imported Chinese.

"Short-sighted captains of industry and blind statesmen may imagine that an American merchant marine can be developed and maintained with cheap alien crews, but history tells a different story.

"A nation that can not man its ships with its own sons will never have a worth-while merchant fleet."

PANAMA UNIONISTS OPPOSE U. S. TREATY

Washington, Feb. 19.—The Labor Federation of the Republic of Panama has forwarded a protest against the United States-Panama treaty to William Green, president of the A. F. of L. and the Pan-American Federation of Labor.

The treaty has been signed by representatives of both countries and will be passed upon by the two governments.

According to the statement by Panama trade unionists "it is very astonishing" that a powerful nation like the United States, with immense territory and so many millions of inhabitants, desires to maintain in economic servitude and subjugation the people of Panama, "which is one of the most generous nations of America and which made possible the building of the Panama Canal by the United States for the benefit of the world."

CANADIAN WORKERS NOT ALL EMPLOYED

Ottawa, Ontario, Feb. 19.—Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, disagrees with optimistic views on employment by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

"It is true that more workers were employed in 1926," the trade unionist said, "but it must be remembered that immigration increased the number of available workers. During the most acute period of depression many sought employment in the United States and have now returned to Canada.

"It is well to warn those who would seize upon this improved situation as a reason for stimulating immigration of industrial workers that there is still a considerable number of our own citizens for whom work is to be provided."

ANTI-FASCISTS UNITE

New York, Feb. 19.—Trade unionists who were born in Italy have joined in a new anti-Fascisti movement. The organization will be known as the Anti-Fascisti Federation of North America for the Freedom of Italy.

The purpose of this organization is to aid anti-Fascist exiles from Italy and to inform the American public, particularly in the labor movement, of the situation in Italy.

Speakers declared that Mussolini maintains a dictatorship through violence and censorship.

WORLD COURT SHELVED BY FRIENDS AND FOES

Washington, Feb. 19.—Friends and foes of the World Court joined in defeating a resolution by Senator Trammell that would rescind the Senate resolution of January 16, 1926, which joined this country to the World Court, with reservations.

One reservation provides that the United States shall retain veto power over any dispute before the court in which this country "has or claims to have an interest."

European nations object to these reservations. The Senate resolution further provides that the signature of the United States shall not be affixed to the World Court statute until the various powers have officially accepted the reservations.

Senator Trammell originally favored the World Court, but he would now rescind the resolution. His proposal was defeated by a vote of 59 to 10.

Friends and foes of the World Court who oppose an extra session of Congress voted against reopening the discussion. Among those who favored the Trammell plan were opponents of the court who believe a reopening of the World Court issue will delay the passage of appropriation bills and make it necessary for the President to call an extra session of Congress. The new Congress, which has a bare administration majority, would then be sworn in.

N. Y. RENTS DOUBLED IN POORER SECTIONS

New York, Feb. 19.—Shocking conditions in tenement sections of this city were revealed at a hearing by the State Housing Board.

Welfare workers, lawyers and rent payers stated that doubling and tripling of families in apartments was still going on in rookeries built 50 years ago and condemned as insanitary and uninhabitable before the present rent laws were passed. Even in cellars, it was said, two families could be found living in rooms described as "unfit for a pig to live in."

The testimony showed that families with growing children, which could afford a few limited luxuries in 1919, before the advance in rents, were reduced to the barest necessities; that old couples barely able to pay rent heretofore have been compelled to go to almshouses because of the rise in rents; that landlords have been notifying tenants to "wait until the rent laws lapse in June and we will give you the trimming of your lives;" that land and tenant litigation in 1926 increased over previous years, and that in 95 per cent of these cases the invariable reply of tenants to the courts was inability to pay the higher rents.

The worst conditions described were in the negro section of Harlem where "double shifts" of boarders used bedrooms day and night and rents had advanced more than 100 per cent.

A health department's investigation of 640 families in the East Harlem district showed that two families were living in many apartments meant for single families. One social worker testified that children are deprived of necessary food that parents could meet increased rents.

CONVICT-MADE GOODS NEED NOT BE MARKED

Austin, Texas, Feb. 19.—The House of Representatives has defeated the Westbrook bill to labor prison-made goods.

Legislative agents of convict contractors were deeply offended at the persistence of organized labor in demanding that the people be informed what they buy.

WIDE-AWAKE "UNIONIST"

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 19.—Representative White is proving a wide-awake business agent of the Lawyers Union. Among several bills he has introduced in the State Legislature to strengthen the Bar Association, one prohibits anyone not a member of the union from pleading his own case before a court. The other would prohibit lawyers from other States practicing in Nebraska.

SHORTER WORK WEEK LOGICAL

A. F. of L. Declaration, Detroit (1926) Convention

Modern methods of production, the high tension of machine operation, the specialization which forces thousands to perform the same meaningless operation thousands of times per day, has placed a strain upon the worker's nervous system which is more enervating, more conducive to physical and mental fatigue, than many more hours of labor would be where the work called for the constant use of the worker's creative faculties.

Modern methods of production more and more tend to make a machine of man. For this reason, in addition to many others, it is essential the daily hours of labor be reduced, and the number of days per week be shortened.

For social reasons, as well as economic, the A. F. of L. is justified in declaring for a shorter work week as energetically as it did in the past for the establishment of the eight-hour day.

UNCLE SAM AND ROCKEFELLER HOLD STOCK OF STRUCK ROAD

Washington, Feb. 19.—The strategical position of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., as a minority stockholder of the Western Maryland Railroad, permitted him to sway the policy of the board of directors had he chosen to press his influence, said Protestant, Catholic and Jewish churchmen in a supplementary report on the long strike of Western Maryland enginemen. The churchmen refuse to accept Mr. Rockefeller's plea that he is "only a minority stockholder."

"It is well understood," the report states, "that an influential minority stockholder can frequently induce or force a change of administrative policy without the compulsion of votes. This is perhaps especially true in the case of a railroad. Drastic action of this sort might have various consequences. Faced by such a situation stockholders whose influence extends far beyond the voting strength of stock must decide whether or not to 'force a show-down'."

While an aggressive policy of a minority stockholder might result in the resignation of the railroad's board of directors, and stock values decline, such results "would be by no means certain," the report states.

"Another possibility is that the minority holder might be able to convince the directors that a different policy would be better business and better morals, and might, by sharing the responsibilities which such a change would entail, succeed in making it effective."

The report calls attention to the control of a large block of stock by the Federal alien property custodian. This official "remained conspicuously silent," although he and Mr. Rockefeller controlled a little less than one-half the stock actually voted.

OPPOSE NIGHT WORK OF POSTAL EMPLOYES

Washington, Feb. 19.—A House committee favors a bill that would penalize post office night work. Extra pay at the rate of 10 per cent of the hourly rates is provided.

"Postal workers prefer shorter hours for night work to increased pay, but this bill will tend to reduce night work," said Thomas F. Flaherty, secretary of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks.

"If the Post Office Department is required to pay a higher rate for night work it will concern itself with a stricter regulation of bulk mailings of unimportant matter that is now given service during the night. It is contended that there is unnecessary night work and much of this will be eliminated if it is made costly."

COAL STRIKE LAWS WILL NOT PASS HOUSE

Washington, Feb. 19.—The House Interstate Commerce Committee has tabled all coal strike legislation. Several proposals would empower the Government to control coal shipments in the event of a mine strike.

HEALTH OFFICIAL URGES BARBERS' LICENSE LAW

Philadelphia, Feb. 19.—Dr. Wilmer Krusen, director of the Department of Public Health, favors a barbers' license law in this State. At a mass meeting of journeymen barbers and employers, the health official declared that the proposed legislation will promote sanitary conditions.

HORSESHOERS TO MEET

Cincinnati, Feb. 19.—Officers of the International Union of Journeymen Horseshoers have issued a call for their thirty-eighth convention to convene in this city on Monday, July 18.

WOULD RECOGNIZE UNIONS

Olympia, Wash., Feb. 19.—A bill authorizing cities of the first class in this State to deal with trade unions in matters of wages and working conditions has been introduced in the State Legislature by Senator Oman.

PRODUCTION ON FARMS EXCEEDS CONSUMPTION

Washington, Feb. 19.—"The American farmer has been producing too much to sell at a profit," said Congressman Fort in discussing the nation's agricultural situation.

"One year, 1924, the farmer produced too many hogs and too many potatoes," Mr. Fort said. "In 1925 he produced too much corn. In 1926 he produced too much cotton, too many apples and too much rice."

CHILD LABOR BAN GAINING GROUND

Washington, Feb. 19.—Approval of the Federal child labor amendment by the Montana Legislature sustains an opinion expressed by William Green, president of the A. F. of L., that sentiment for the amendment is increasing. Last year the Montana Senate rejected the amendment, but it reversed its position and joined with the House of Representatives in approving the proposal.

President Green has called on organized labor for greater activity in behalf of the amendment. "The protection of children from industrial exploitation," he said, "is the most important question before the people."

"To have the amendment ratified it is necessary that organized workers also appeal to members of the Legislature in their respective States," Mr. Green said.

"According to the latest reports there are at least 2,000,000 children between the ages of 10 and 15 years, and at least 2,500,000 between the ages of 10 and 16 years now employed in gainful occupations. The lack of enforcement of compulsory education laws in some States permit this exploitation of children.

"From reports received from all parts of the United States the sentiment is increasing that the proposed child labor amendment should be ratified.

"I am certain that if every trade unionist in States where legislatures are in session will write to the members of their respective legislatures those who refused to ratify will change their votes and approve the amendment."

COLONEL SMITH LOSES IN SENATORIAL FIGHT

Washington, Feb. 19.—The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections has refused to favor the seating of Col. Frank L. Smith of Illinois, pending an investigation of the charge that he received campaign contributions from a Middle West traction magnate.

Colonel Smith was elected last November for a full six-year term to succeed Senator McKinley. The latter died a few weeks ago, and Governor Small appointed Colonel Smith to fill the vacancy, which expires March 4.

The Senate committee's action means that the appointee will not be seated, and that hearings will be held on his election by the new Senate committee, which will be appointed when Congress convenes next December.

TAXES ON CHEAP HOMES IS BAR TO LOWER RENTS

New York, Feb. 19.—The John D. Rockefeller, Jr., plan to build apartments for families of moderate means was classed a "white-collar development" by Darwin R. James, chairman of the State Housing Board.

Mr. James praised the Rockefeller project, but he insisted that private enterprise alone, even though operating on a limited profit basis, can not bring relief to the low wage earner in congested tenement sections.

The State official believes that slums should be replaced with the aid of private capital and that this development should be exempt from taxation.

EIGHT HOURS FOR WOMEN

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 19.—A women's eight-hour bill has been introduced in the General Assembly. In the House it is sponsored by Representative Mrs. Lottie Holman O'Neil, and in the Senate by Senator Starr.

SKETCH OF M'NARY-HAUGEN BILL

The following is the outstanding feature of the much-discussed McNary-Haugen farm bill:

Farmers' organizations in each Federal Bank Reserve district shall present names to the President from which list the President shall appoint a committee of 12 that will have charge of the marketing of wheat, corn, rice, swine and other commodities. The Government will place a revolving fund of $250,000,000 at the disposal of the committee.

Every bushel of wheat sold in this country may be assessed an amount sufficient to equalize the lower cost received by wheat growers who are forced to export their wheat. The 42-cent wheat tariff will debar entrance of foreign wheat.

Approximately 800,000,000 bushels of wheat is annually raised in this country. The annual consumption averages 700,000,000 bushels. This leaves 100,000,000 bushels for export, in competition with other countries. Generally the Liverpool price of wheat establishes the world price, which is reflected in the United States.

If the Liverpool price is $1 a bushel, the wheat board could advance wheat prices in this country to approximately 42 cents. To share this increase with wheat owners who are forced to sell their wheat abroad for $1, domestic wheat growers may be assessed an amount per bushel that will place the price received by exporters on a parity with the domestic price.

To illustrate: Suppose the nation's annual wheat crop totaled 800 bushels, of which 100 bushels were exported. The price of the 700 bushels used here would be placed at $1.42, but a stabilizing tax of 6 cents a bushel would be collected by the Government board through wheat elevators and co-operative associations. This would leave $1.36 net for domestic wheat.

The 6-cent tax on the 700 bushels would total $42. This would be used by the Government board to equalize the difference between what the exporters are forced to accept and the domestic price.

The tax would also pay operating expenses of the board and would guarantee repayment of the $250,000,000 Government loan.

Former Foes Of Blocs In Congress Change Front To Serve Their Ends

Washington, Feb. 19.—Blocs in the national Congress, which were condemned a few months ago, are now favored by former opponents of this system.

The McNary-Haugen farm bill and the Pepper-McFadden banking bill have smashed party lines, and members of Congress who would frighten the people with the disappearance of party lines through the bloc system are using this method.

The reason, of course, is that the bloc system will help them. When the "shoe was on the other foot" they opposed it.

Political observers agree that the present tendency will result in further weakening of the party spirit and discipline, and will go a long ways toward developing a stronger non-partisan sentiment throughout the country.

On both the farm bill and the banking bill, members of Congress have generally divided on economic lines.

The banking bill would permit Federal banks to open branches and indefinitely extend the Federal Reserve Board charter eight years before it expires. Opponents claim this will entrench members of the Federal banking system in their control of governmental and private finance.

In a three-hour attack on the bill, Senator Wheeler declared that a banking lobby is supporting the bill and that there is as much need for newspapers to demand that President Coolidge veto it as the farm relief measure.

"In my judgment," Senator Wheeler said, "20 per cent of the Senators have not read this bill. There is no need to jam through this legislation in the closing hours of this session when it is not understood by the people, the nation and the Senate, and not even by the members of the committee who reported it out.

"There has been a great deal said about the members of the farm bloc, but to say anything about the members of the banking bloc is lese majesty. I don't say that the Federal Reserve Board is all bad, but why is an effort being made now, eight years before its present charter expires, to pass this bill?

"There has been tremendous pressure for this bill. Little bankers who are against it because they are afraid it will put them out of business have been made to change their minds for fear of being disciplined. The pressure which has made men who denounced it before change their minds has also shifted sentiment in the newspapers. If Andrew Jackson could hear some of the things that are being said now he would turn over in his grave."

FARMERS URGED TO CO-OPERATE BY MEN WHO SABOTAGE SYSTEM

Washington, Feb. 19.—The farmer has been an ardent co-operator but he has lost confidence in this movement, said Senator Nye, answering those who insist that co-operation, rather than legislation, is the farmer's hope.

Although the farmer has closely watched his co-op. enterprises, "eventually they have been forced to the wall and their life crushed out after the farmer invested hundreds and thousands of dollars in such co-operation," Senator Nye said.

The North Dakota lawmaker referred to the Federal Trade Commission's report on the collapse of the Equity Co-operative Exchange in the Northwest several years ago.

"The Federal Trade Commission discloses that this movement was boycotted and sabotaged to death," Senator Nye said. "Boycotted and sabotaged by whom? By the very interests which today lead in opposition to the so-called McNary-Haugen bill. The Federal Trade Commission declared that the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce and other interests which had been mulcting the people in the marketing of food products interested themselves in the death of the Equity Co-operative Exchange from the day of its birth and finally succeeded by sending agents and representatives out over the territory which this exchange was serving, betraying it and playing upon the prejudices and fears of the farmers who had invested their dollars in the enterprise. So it finally collapsed because of the program which had been instituted against it by the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce and similar interests.

"The Federal Trade Commission report declares the names of the individuals who had a hand in that program of boycott and sabotage; and yet, Mr. President, in the four years since that report the Government has not taken one step to prosecute those responsible for wrecking the greatest of all co-operative undertakings out there in the great Northwest. And yet there are Senators here—there are people in general over the United States—who still insist that the only solution of the farmer's problem lies in co-operation, and that the only way he can co-operate or should co-operate is to organize with his neighbors and to have all farmers belong to that organization."

LEAD IN INDUSTRY POISONS WORKERS

Washington, Feb. 19.—Lead is the most widely distributed cause of all metallic poisonings and is recognized as a hazard of many occupations, according to Dr. Arthur L. Murray, surgeon, in a report published by the Bureau of Mines.

Lead is used in 138 industries. In certain of these industries there is only a slight opportunity for poisoning, but many of them use lead or lead salts in processes which present decided hazards to workers. Foremost among these hazards are: Lead mining, smelting and refining; grinding and mixing lead paints; painting, glazing and decorating white wear, pottery, tiles and porcelain; typefounding and typesetting; manufacture and repair of storage batteries and the manufacture of rubber goods.

"Lead used in industry enters the body in the form of a dust," said Dr. Murray. "Lead dust, in most cases of industrial poisoning, occurs as a lead salt, but in certain occupations, such as file cutting, precious stone grinding and the filling of lead castings, finely divided particles of metallic lead may be taken into the body."

GUILTY OF PEONAGE; SHERIFF INCLUDED

Corpus Christi, Texas, Feb. 19.—Five men, including Sheriff Teller and Floyd Dodd, justice of the peace, were found guilty of peonage in the Federal district court. The law provides a penalty of five years on each count.

In deferring sentence Judge Hutcheson said he would investigate why members of the county official family sold men at $2 apiece.

"Peonage," said the court in his charge to the jury, "consists of putting men to work to pay a debt by some device which overcomes their will. There is no law preventing a man to work for another to pay a debt if he works of his own free will. To have him believe that he can not leave until the debt is paid, that is peonage."

SHORTER WORK WEEK GAINED

New York, Feb. 19.—A 42-hour week for the next 15 months and 40 hours thereafter feature a new contract signed by the Bonnaz Embroidery Manufacturers' Association and members of Local Union No. 66, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

GIRLS STICK TO UNION

Passaic, N. J., Feb. 19.—Several hundred girls employed by Garfinkel & Ritter, white goods manufacturers, are immune to blandishments of employers, who promise "to be good" if the girls desert their union and return to work.

WOMEN BACK UNION IN SANITARY PLEA

Philadelphia, Feb. 19.—A group of representative women, headed by Mrs. Gifford Pinchot, have appealed to dress manufacturers of this city to give favorable consideration to their employes' request for improved working conditions.

The workers ask that joint boards be set up to adjust disputes and to assure sanitary workshops. The latter request, the women say, "must appeal to all decent, humanitarian employers, as well as the general public whose health is vitally concerned in the sanitary conditions under which garments are manufactured."

The proposal to adjust disputes through mediation is recommended "because it eliminates bitterness and strife." This system is in vogue in New York, Cleveland, Boston, Chicago and other dress centers.

"These are the principal points of the union program which we believe the public will support whole-heartedly," the women say. "We believe all intelligent, far-sighted employers must support them. The other items in the union program, the shorter work week, price-fixing committees for piece workers, minimum wage scales for workers, also commend themselves to us. They should serve as a basis for negotiations. We feel certain that a common understanding can be reached on these problems."

COMPANY "UNION" LEADS WAGE CUT

Denver, Feb. 19.—Forced to meet the low wage scale agreed to by Rockefeller's Colorado Fuel and Iron Company "union," miners employed at Crested Butte, suspended work.

The Rockefeller "union" leads in wage cutting. Recently the State Industrial Commission allowed a cut in wages to meet a freight rate increase at the instigation of the Fuel and Iron Company. Later the freight rate was reduced, but the wages were not restored.

WHOLESALE BAKERIES REALIZE 15 PER CENT

Washington, Feb. 19.—Annual earnings of wholesale bakeries in this country averaged 15 per cent on the investment from 1920 to 1925, the Federal Trade Commission reported to the Senate. If strictly baking investment is considered, the report said, earnings would show an annual average of 25 per cent.